

DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.
10TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE
RANKING MEMBER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROADS,
PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND MARITIME SECURITY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE
106 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3436

DISTRICT OFFICES
LEROY F. SMITH, JR. PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
60 NELSON PLACE, 14 FLOOR
NEWARK, NJ 07102
(973) 645-3213

253 MARTIN LUTHER KING DRIVE
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07305
(201) 369-0392

1455 Liberty Avenue
Hillside, NJ 07205
(862) 229-2994

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

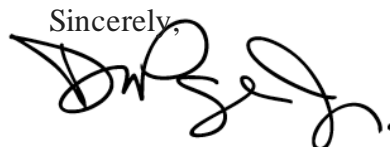
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Development of Community Enterprise Center and Facility Upgrades Project in Fiscal Year 2024. The entity receive funding for this project is the Urban League of Essex County, located at 508 Central Avenue, Newark, NJ, 07107. This project will support upgrades to the Urban League facilities to improve safety, improve accessibility. The mission of the CEC will be to assist Black and other BIPOC entrepreneurs in growing their businesses. All levels of strivers across Essex County will be served, from "craft to cash" and home-based to mobile micro and small businesses, the CEC will focus on educating, incubating, accelerating, and networking for Black and other BIPOC entrepreneurs. This is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will offer a place-based system of entrepreneurial supports including loans, grants, technical assistance, networking, access to quality internet and technology, co-working space, and a rentable commercial kitchen. The Urban League facilities are not handicap accessible entry, sidewalks are cracked and uneven increasing the risks to the seniors who participate in our programs. To make the facility ADA complaint it requires knocking out the building frontage to enlarge the doorways and install ramps. We are requesting funds to comply with ADA requirements.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,


Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress